

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to a final Office Action mailed July 29, 2005.

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-9 and 11-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Haller et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,804,558) ("Haller"). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Haller in view of Fan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,815,126) ("Fan"). Independent claims 1, 18, 19, and 23 are being amended herein. Claims 24-29 are being added. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-29 will be pending. No new matter is being introduced by way of the amendments. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Applicant is amending claim 1 to remove a limitation that the remote access port operates "in a dedicated manner," which was added in an Amendment filed in response to the First Office Action mailed November 29, 2004. Applicant is further amending Claim 1 to recite, "a plurality of local ports including at least one wired local port and at least one wireless local port."

In contrast, Haller discloses a system that includes implantable medical devices (IMD's) 10 capable of bi-directional communication with a communication module 100 and a mobile telephone 110 located outside the patient's body, and a communication system capable of bi-directional communication (Abstract). Haller's communication module does not have a "wired local port," as recited in Applicant's now amended claim 1. Moreover, because the IMD's are implanted in a patient's body, a "wired local port" would not be useful to an implantable medical device application because it would require a wire to project from the IMD and through the patient's skin for plugging into the communication module.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 as now amended distinguishes over Haller and requests the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Claims 2-17, which depend from claim 1, should be allowable for at least the same reasons and Applicant respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn for these claims.

Independent claims 18, 19, and 23 have been similarly amended as claim 1 and should be allowable for the same reasons. Claims 20-22 and 24-25, which depend from amended independent claims 19 and 23, respectively, should be allowable for at least the same reasons.

New claims 24-25, 26-27, and 28-29, depend from independent claims 1, 19, and 23, respectively. Claims 24, 26, and 28 are being added to include that the wireless network adapter facilitates a communications path between multiple local ports. Support for these claims may be found in the specification in paragraph 46. Claims 25, 27, and 29 are being added to include that at least two local ports use different data rates and different data formats. Support for these claims may be found in the specification in paragraphs 24 and 36.

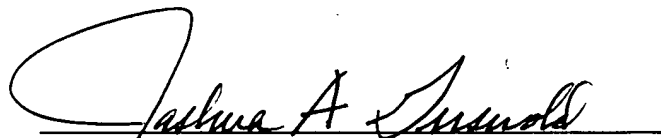
Conclusion

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in order for issuance. Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' representative at the phone number provided below.

Enclosed is a \$150 check for excess claim fees. Please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 29, 2005


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